



LA CRESCENT CITY NEWS

Visit our Website www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov

Fall/Winter 2019

NATIONAL NEIGHBOR'S NIGHT OUT

The La Crescent Police Department officers and reserve unit hosted about 1200 community members at the 13th Annual Neighbor's Night Out August 6th in La Crescent. There were free dinners, a bounce house, free swimming and demonstrations by the High School Robotics crew.

The Firefighters brought a truck providing a chance for everyone to run the fire hose. There was a variety of police vehicles, MN State Patrol, Tri-State Ambulance and lots of cool booths to visit to learn more about what there is to see and do in La Crescent.

Visit the [La Crescent Police Department Facebook page](#) to see more photos from the night.



Thank you to everyone who attended and to all of our generous sponsors!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



Vetsch Park Prairie Project

In 2016, the Winona/Root River Pheasants Forever chapter partnered with the City of La Crescent and La Crescent-Hokah Public Schools to plant a 2 acre prairie in La Crescent's Vetsch Park. The objective of the project was to teach students the importance of native prairie and pollinators to our food supply. Students learned through hands-on demonstrations that pollinators like bees, butterflies, and birds are responsible for pollinating nearly a third of the food we eat. In 2019, the prairie has matured offering a diverse habitat for thousands of pollinators and other wildlife. In addition it provides continued educational opportunities for students, citizens, and visitors to our community.



Picture by: Jason Ludwigson



Picture by: Tyler Benish



Picture by: Jason Ludwigson

La Crescent Motor Vehicle Department



(Pictured L-R: Heidi Lapham, Mary Loeffler, and Kim Voshart)

As of October 1st, 2020, residents of Minnesota will be required to have a “Real ID/Drivers License” or a valid passport to fly within the United States.

A standard MN Driver's License will no longer be valid for boarding a plane in the U.S. or for identification when entering federal buildings, military bases, or nuclear power plants. In those instances you will need one of the following: REAL ID/Driver's License, Enhanced Driver's License, or a valid passport. Otherwise the standard Driver's License will still be available. Please visit the following website: dvs.dps.mn.gov or visit our La Crescent office to see the identification requirements needed to obtain a REAL ID/Driver's License or the Enhanced Driver's License.

CDL licenses may require additional information. Visit dvs.dps.mn.gov for details.

DMV hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon. - Fri. (**Enhanced Drivers License are not done after 4:00pm; Real ID, Standard DL/ID and Title work are not done after 4:30pm**)

****On rare occasions, due to staffing, the department may be closed from 1:00 - 2:00 to accommodate for a staff lunch break.****

If you have any questions about these services or other services that the La Crescent DMV provides, please call 507-895-4627 or visit dvs.dps.mn.gov for more information on what is required for other services. ****The DMV accepts Cash or Check only****

Solar Panel Project

As the City continues to strive at being a Green City, ground-mounted solar panels are being installed at the Radium Plant on N. 2nd Street, and between the Street Maintenance Facility and the La Crescent Animal Shelter on Chestnut St. this fall. The City installed rooftop solar panels at the Fire Department/Community building in 2017.



Image of ground-mounted solar panels

As you may well know, the La Crescent Motor Vehicle Department is one of the busiest offices at City Hall. The City is very fortunate to have two full-time staff members and one part-time staff member that are very thorough and knowledgeable in their job and at the same time do their best to make everyone's visit pleasant.

Due to State requirements, more information may be required for transactions, resulting in longer wait times. Your patience is appreciated.

Online Pay



The City of La Crescent partners with PSN which is a national payment service that residents can use to pay their water and sewer bill online. Visit our website www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov, menu item 'Pay My Bill.' You can also call 877-885-7968 for assistance.

The City is now accepting the following forms of payment for all services **except Motor Vehicle**.



Credit Card payments will not be accepted over the phone. (A 2.9% + .50 convenience fee will be applied to payments less than \$100.00. A 2.9% convenience fee will be applied to payments over \$100.00)

City Hall Holiday Closures (Fall/Winter 2019/2020)

November 11th - Veterans Day
November 28th & 29th - Thanksgiving Holiday
December 24th open 8:00-Noon, Christmas Eve Day
December 25th - Christmas Day
December 31st Open 8:00-Noon, New Years Eve Day
January 1st, 2020 - New Years Day
January 20th, 2020 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 17th, 2020 - Presidents Day

Senior Dining

All Seniors 60 years of age or older are invited to join us for lunch time meals at the La Crescent Community Building.

Monday—Friday

10:30 - Doors Open for coffee and Socialization

11:00 - Entertainment when offered (Bingo every Friday)

11:30 - Meals are served

12:30 - Card club every Thursday

507-895-6585 (Please call 24 hours in advance for reservations).

Building Permits

All permits for the City are now done online.

Visit our website
www.cityoflacscent-mn.gov Menu tab
'Administration' sub-tab
Building & Zoning.

If you are unsure if a permit is required or not, please call the Building & Zoning Department at 895-2595.

La Crescent Public Library

317 Main St.
507-895-4047

Hours:

| | |
|-----------|--------------|
| Sunday | Closed |
| Monday | 10:00 - 6:00 |
| Tuesday | 10:00 - 6:00 |
| Wednesday | 10:00 - 7:00 |
| Thursday | 10:00 - 7:00 |
| Friday | 10:00 - 6:00 |
| Saturday | 10:00 - 2:00 |

Check out the Library's website :
www.lacscent.lib.mn.us
to see all of the exciting programs they have to offer this fall.

La Crescent Animal Rescue

523 S. Chestnut Street
507-895-2066
lacscentanimalrescue.com

Hours:

1st & 3rd Sundays noon - 3:00
Monday 5:00 - 7:00
Wednesday 3:00 - 7:00
Thursday 5:00 - 7:00
Saturday Noon - 3:00

City Animal Regulations

All dogs and cats within the City are required to be licensed at 4 months of age or older. **Licenses are renewed on a yearly basis and must be purchased at the Front Office of City Hall by January 15th to avoid a \$10.00 penalty.**



Spayed/Neutered - \$7.50 per pet
Non-spayed/Neutered - \$10.00 per pet
Multiple Pet fee (3 or more of one species) - \$25.00

PROOF OF RABIES VACCINE MUST BE GIVEN AT TIME OF LICENSING

Dogs and Cats in the City must be leashed if outside.

La Crescent Chamber of Commerce New Location

The La Crescent Chamber of Commerce moved from it's location in the Eitzen State Bank Building (ESB). They are now located in the building next door to ESB at 111 S. Walnut Street, Suite B.

Phone: 507-895-2800 Email: LaCrescent.Chamber@acegroup.cc

La Crescent Hires New Peace Officer

On August 12, 2019 Officer Kaylee Inglett (pictured with Chief Stavenau and Mayor Poellinger) was sworn in as a full time officer with the La Crescent Police Department.

We welcome badge 304!



La Crescent Library Director LaVonne Beach Set to Retire

After 20 years as the La Crescent Library Director, LaVonne Beach will retire on October 4th, 2019. Thank you LaVonne for your many years of service and best wishes for a happy retirement.

| | <u>1995</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Circulation | 35,488 | 55,593 |
| Collection (Physical Materials) | 13,369 | 33,986 |
| Number of Visits | Not Recorded | 74,686 |
| Registered Borrowers | Not Recorded | 4,331 |
| Service Population | 7,081 | 9,451 |
| Total Programs Offered | 118 | 305 |
| Open Hours | 24 hrs/week | 46 hrs/week |
| Public Computers | 1 (dial-up access) | 8 (Wi-Fi access) |

Old Hickory Volleyball Courts



Volleyball courts were added to Old Hickory Park this summer.

Picture by: Mike Ernster

Important Information

Recycling Cart Collection

Winter/snow considerations (per Hilltopper Refuse and Recycling)

- In winter, clear a place at your normal collection point so the cart sits flat. **Carts will not be collected if placed on a snow bank.**
- Cart needs to sit on a level surface.
- If the cart is not placed out properly or the driver has an issue with the cart, a tag will be placed on the cart to notify you of the issue.
- **If your recycling was not picked up please contact Hilltopper Refuse and Recycling directly at 608-783-6727**

For more information about the **recycling cart and calendar** view our website www.cityoflacscent-mn.gov 'Refuse & Recycling' tab.

Hilltopper Refuse and Recycling Garbage pick-up delays due to Holiday

No garbage pick up on Dec. 25th. Pick up day will be Dec. 26th.
No garbage/recycle pick-up Jan. 1st. Pick-up day will be Jan. 2nd.

State Water User Rate Change

The Minnesota Legislature has approved an increase in the drinking water service connection fee from \$6.36 annually to \$9.72 annually effective January 1, 2020. This fee is passed through to the Minnesota Department of Health's Drinking Water Protection Program. City Residents are charged this annual water user fee on their utility bill to pay for the last two quarters of the current year and the first two quarters of the next year. Due to the timing of the State rate increase, the following will be the 2019 Rate Calculations for city residents connected to water service:

7/1/19-12/31/19 = \$3.18 (1/2 of the current rate of \$6.36)
1/1/20-6/30/20 = \$4.86 (1/2 of the new rate of \$9.72)
Total rate to be collected in 2019 = \$8.04
Starting in 2020, the annual rate charged will be \$9.72.

Leaf Disposal

The City does not have a leaf pick-up service. Please do not rake leaves into the street. Leaves and brush can be taken to the City Compost site.

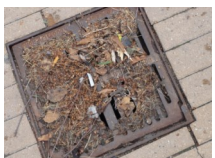
Sidewalk Snow Removal

Snow needs to be removed from sidewalks (full width) within 24 hours of a snowfall.

Managing Storm Water

Minnesota's lakes, rivers, forests and farms all depend upon the replenishing waters of annual precipitation. However, when precipitation falls on homeowner's lawns treated with chemicals, and impervious areas such as paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops it can wash away soil, sediment, and chemicals. This is called runoff. Runoff can change both water quality and quantity affecting our water resources physically, chemically and biologically. Polluted runoff containing oil, grease, chemicals, nutrients, metals, litter, and pathogens for example can severely reduce water quality.

If left unmanaged, runoff stresses the streams, ages the lakes, and degrades and eliminates the wetlands.



Yard waste in streets eventually ends up in a local river. It brings nitrogen with it and clouds water reduces stream depth and damages habitat.

Please avoid raking leaves and yard waste into the street



When removing ice from driveways and sidewalks, try to use a calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) deicer. This is about as corrosive as tap water, safe for concrete, biodegradable and requires fewer applications.

City Compost Site and Recycling Center

The Compost Site (Located on Main St. just past Classic Rock) is operated by the City:

Fall hours: (starts Oct. 3rd)

Mondays: 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Thurs. (Oct. 3rd-Nov. 28th only)
2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturdays: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Winter Hours: (starts Dec. 7th)

Saturdays only 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

The Recycling Center (Located behind the Flea Market Building on Chestnut St.) is operated by Houston County.

Hours:

Thursdays: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm (year round)
Saturdays: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm (year round)



Census 2020

April 1st, 2020 is Census Day. Sometime before that, households will receive an invitation in the mail to participate. Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Getting an accurate census count is important for cities. Billions of dollars of federal funding are distributed to Minnesota communities based on census figures. Congressional representation is also based on official census counts. Minnesota is one state that may potentially lose a seat in congress.

Please take the time to respond to the census. Also consider helping someone you know that may need assistance in completing the questionnaire.

For more information on the 2020 Census please search www.2020census.gov

Prescription Drug Drop-off Box

Please do your part in keeping La Crescent safe by bringing unused medicines for environmentally friendly disposal.

We thank all of our residents for doing their part.

The box may be accessed during regular business hours 8:00am - 5:00pm Mon. - Fri. Meds can remain in their original containers. No need to remove or mark-out the labels. This is a confidential disposal unit. *No liquids or needles accepted.*

ADOPT A FLOWER BED

The City of La Crescent is looking for individuals or community organizations that would be interested in voluntarily "adopting" one of the city's many flower beds to maintain Spring through Fall. If you are interested please contact Angie Boettcher at 507-895-2224 or email aboettcher@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov

2020 Election

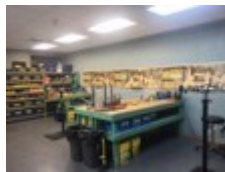
Another election year is almost upon us. If you or someone you know would be interested in being an Election Judge please contact Angie Boettcher at City Hall 507-895-2224 or email aboettcher@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov. Election judges are paid and are required to be available for training, and all day for Primary and General elections.

Presidential Nominating Primary will be on March 3rd, 2020. Watch for more information on our website: www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov

La Crescent Community Bike Shoppe

The La Crescent Community Bike Shoppe was operational from June 1 – Aug 31 in a new location. The workshop is located inside the Acentek building at 227 Main St.. Volunteers served the community on Saturday mornings from 9-12 pm on the back parking lot and Tuesday/Thursday evenings, 6-8 pm by appointment. The Bike Shoppe received a Community Impact Grant from the La Crescent Community Foundation to cover the cost of relocating.

In summary 15 bikes were sold this summer, 10 completed bikes were donated to those in need and over 50 bike services such as tune-ups, tire and tube changes and adjustments were done this summer. At National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6th the Bike Shoppe gave away 40 helmets protecting the heads of kids of all sizes. The Bike Shoppe volunteers also completed service on 42 school district bikes this summer. They were cleaned, tuned up and ready for the school year. All in all the Bike Shoppe volunteers logged over 400 hours so far this year. Work will continue this fall and winter as they prepare for another bike season in the spring of 2020. By Linda Larson



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK (Oct. 6-12)

With Fire Prevention Week coming up the La Crescent Fire Department asks, "help us, help you" by abiding the State Fire Codes and doing the following:

Address numbers are required to be 4 inches high with a minimum strike width of 1/2" plainly legible from the street. It's helpful to emergency responders to have address numbers on the house facing the street, both sides of your mailbox, and also on the back of your property if you have an alley.

Smoke alarms shall be located in each sleeping room, immediately outside each sleeping room and on each additional story, including basements and habitable attics. The NFPA recommends replacing smoke alarms every ten years. Test alarm monthly, replace batteries yearly.

Carbon monoxide detectors are required in all residential buildings and dwelling units which have fuel-fired appliances or attached garages. They must be installed within 10 feet of each sleeping area and bedroom (make sure to install smoke alarms/carbon monoxide detectors per the manufacturer's recommendation). The NFPA recommends replacing carbon monoxide detectors every 5-7 years depending on manufacture. Test monthly, replace batteries yearly.



Please keep your fire hydrant clear of obstructions, we ask that you shovel a 3-foot radius around your neighborhood fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow and ice during the winter.

Please keep trees trimmed back to the edge of the road/back of the curb to a height of 13'-6" to allow emergency vehicles to access your property and your neighbors.

Upcoming Events

Friends of the Library book sale 9:00 - noon every 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month. Located behind City Hall, 315 Main Street.

Rick Crume “How to Trace Your Family Tree on FamilySearch.org” 6:00pm, October 9th, 2019 at the La Crescent Library, 317 Main Street. Funded with MN Legacy dollars. Free to public.

La Crescent-Hokah Basketball Bash 5:00pm - 10:00pm, November 9th, 2019 at the La Crescent Area Event Center.

Local Author Ross Phelps discusses his new book. 6:30pm, December 5th, 2019 at the La Crescent Library, 317 Main Street.

MnDOT pedestrian Survey - MnDOT is in need of your feedback regarding pedestrian sidewalks. Please take a moment and go to the following website to fill out a survey: <https://www.minnesotawalks.org/participate/>

Would you be willing to help the City in our continued effort of going “Green?”
Please consider receiving the Spring/Summer issue of the Newsletter via email.
Simply send your email address to aboettcher@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov.

City Council

The City Council meets at 5:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays every month in the City Council Chamber. Meetings are open to the public.

Council Members:

Mayor - Mikel Poellinger

Cherryl Jostad
Brian Krenz
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner
Dale Williams

Council Agenda and Council meeting minutes can be found on the City website:

www.cityoflacrescent-mn.gov 'City Government' tab.

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